

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An electrode of a vacuum circuit breaker, comprising:

a cup member having an opening and a periphery which is formed with a slit so as to form a coil section, an electric current flowing in the coil section so as to generate a longitudinal magnetic field in a direction along an axis of the cup member, the slit being bent and continuously extending on the periphery from a first end of the cup member to a second end of the cup member opposite to the first end of the cup member; and

a contact shaped into a plate, and sealing the opening of the cup member[[]]

wherein

the bent slit comprises of:

a first line segment having a first end which is substantially perpendicular to a reverse face of the contact, the reverse face sealing the opening of the cup member, and

a second line segment continuously connected to a second end of the first line segment opposite to the first end of the first line segment, the first line segment and the second line segment forming an inclination greater than a right angle, the second line segment being substantially parallel to the reverse face of the contact.

2. (Original) The electrode of the vacuum circuit breaker as claimed in claim 1, in which the bent slit is formed stepwise.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) The electrode of the vacuum circuit breaker as claimed in claim 1, ~~in which the bent slit is plural in number~~ further comprising a plurality of the bent slits.

5. (Original) The electrode of the vacuum circuit breaker as claimed in claim 1, in which the contact is shaped substantially into a disk plate.

6. (Withdrawn) A method of producing an electrode of a vacuum circuit breaker, the electrode comprising a cup member having an opening which is sealed with a contact shaped into a plate, the cup member having a periphery which is formed with a slit so as to form a coil section, an electric current flowing in the coil section so as to generate a longitudinal magnetic field in a direction along an axis of the cup member, the method comprising the following operations of:

turning the cup member around the axis of the cup member by a predetermined rotational feed angle relative to a tool; and

feeding the tool, in the direction along the axis of the cup member, relative to the cup member during the turning operation of the cup member, so as to form the slit which is bent and continuously extending on the periphery from a first end of the cup member to a second end of the cup member opposite to the first end of the cup member.

7. (Withdrawn) The method of producing the electrode of the vacuum circuit breaker as claimed in claim 6, in which the turning operation and the feeding operation are carried out alternatively.

8. (Withdrawn) The method of producing the electrode of the vacuum circuit breaker as claimed in claim 6, in which the turning operation and the feeding operation are carried out intermittently.

9. (Withdrawn) The method of producing the electrode of the vacuum circuit breaker as claimed in claim 6, in which the tool is a drill.

10. (Withdrawn) A vacuum circuit breaker comprising:

a pair of a first electrode and a second electrode opposite to the first electrode, each of the first electrode and the second electrode comprising:

a cup member having an opening and a periphery which is formed with a slit so as to form a coil section, an electric current flowing in the coil section so as to generate a longitudinal magnetic field in a direction along an axis of the cup member, the slit being bent and continuously extending on the periphery from a first end of the cup member to a second end of the cup member opposite to the first end of the cup member; and

a contact shaped into a disk plate, and sealing the opening of the cup member.

11. (Withdrawn) The vacuum circuit breaker as claimed in claim 10, in which the bent slit of each of the first electrode and the second electrode is formed stepwise.

12. (Withdrawn) The vacuum circuit breaker as claimed in claim 10, in which the bent slit is a combination of:

a first line segment having a first end which is substantially perpendicular to a reverse face of the contact, the reverse face sealing the opening of the cup member, and

a second line segment continuously connected to a second end of the first line segment opposite to the first end of the first line segment; and

the first segment and the second segment form an inclination.

13. (Currently Amended) The vacuum circuit breaker as claimed in claim 10, ~~in which the bent slit is plural in number~~ further comprising a plurality of the bent slits.

14. (New) The electrode of the vacuum circuit breaker as claimed in claim 2, wherein

the inclination formed by the first line segment and the second line segment of the bent slit is substantially rounded.

15. (New) The electrode of the vacuum circuit breaker as claimed in claim 4, further comprising five or more number of the bent slits.